

REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is submitted in response to a non-final Office Action mailed on September 24, 2003.

Claims 1-45 were pending in the application. Claims 1-9 and 12-45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over, Mitchell *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,349,301). Claims 10-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitchell in view of Liles *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,880,731).

In the forgoing amendments, Applicant has cancelled claims 1-45 and added claims 46-72. These amendments are discussed in further detail below. Support for the new claims can be found in the specification and claims of the application as filed. No new matter has been added by these amendments. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the foregoing Amendments and reconsideration of the Application in light of the amendments above and the remarks below.

I. Claims 1-9 and 12-45

Claims 1-9 and 12-45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by, or, in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over, Mitchell. Applicant has cancelled claims 1-9 and 12-45. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1-9 and 12-45 is moot, and Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner withdraw the rejection of the claims.

II. Claims 10-11

Claims 10-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitchell in view of Liles. Applicant has cancelled claims 10-11. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 10-11 is moot, and Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner withdraw the rejection of the claims.

II. Claims 46-72

To reject a claim as anticipated under 102, the reference must teach every aspect of the claimed invention either explicitly or impliedly. Any feature not directly taught must be inherently present. See, MPEP 706.02. Further, to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness,

there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. And the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. See, MPEP 2142.

Mitchell fails to teach or suggest "including a force information in a chat message; and transmitting the chat message having the force information to a network, the force information configured to cause a haptic sensation to be output when the chat message is delivered," as recited in independent claim 46 (or 62). Mitchell also fails to teach or suggest "receiving a chat message from a network; extracting a force information from the chat message; and generating a first signal associated with the force information," as recited in independent claim 56 (or 68). For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that independent claims 46, 56, 62, and 68 are allowable. Because dependent claims 47-55, 57-61, 63-67, and 69-72 depend from one of independent claims 46, 56, 62, and 68, they are allowable as well.

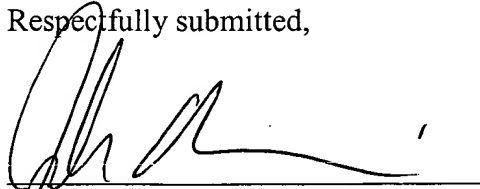
Applicant points out that the foregoing amendments do not acquiesce to the statements and rejections made in the Office Action. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to file a Continuation.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 46-72 are allowable. A favorable Office Action is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have any comments, questions or suggestions of a nature necessary to expedite the prosecution of the application, or to place the case in condition for allowance, the Examiner is courteously requested to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: 12/22/03

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